**Expansion of Airports in Himachal Pradesh**

†1517. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for expansion of Bhunter, Kangra and Shimla Airports in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken up work relating to extension/resurfacing of runway, construction of an apron/taxiway, terminal building, car park, sub-station, drainage system, two conveyor belts and other miscellaneous work at Kangra Airport at an estimated cost of Rs. 10.34 crores. At Bhuntar Airport, AAI has taken up construction of new terminal building, apron, taxiway, car park at an estimated cost of Rs. 7.47 crores. At Shimla Airport, AAI has taken up the extension of runway and resurfacing the runway at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.49 crores.

**Upgradation of Ranchi Airport**

1518. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to upgrade and modernise the airport at Ranchi, in view of the city becoming capital of the newly created State of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to connect Ranchi with Air services to all the major metropolises/capital cities in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Ranchi Airport is suitable for all weather operation of AB-320 class of aircraft. The facilities and terminal building are adequate for present level of operation. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plans to expand the terminal building in the Xth Plan depending upon increase in traffic demand.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Airlines plan their operations on the basis of commercial viability subject to route dispersal guidelines. Indian Airlines is connecting Ranchi with Patna, Delhi and Mumbai with a daily A-320 service.

**Harrassment of passengers at airports**

1519. SHRI CHO. S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the name of security check-up the airport security agencies are harrassing the passengers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are a lot of problems on account of such harassment and the passengers are put to hardships;

(c) the steps being taken to contain this problem;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the flight schedules are also affected on account of this unwanted harassment; and

(e) if so, the remedial action being taken to set things right?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) Security checks are meant for ensuring security of air passengers. The checks are done according to the guidelines of International Civil Aviation Organization and due care is taken to ensure that the passengers do not face any harassment or hardships.

(d) No, Sir. However, on receipt of a specific threat, elaborate securitry checks are carried out, due to which some flights may be delayed.

(e) Regular monitoring of security arrangements is done. Besides regular training on Aviation Security is also imparted to airport security personnel regarding pre-embarkation checks.

**Misbehaviour by CISF personnel**

1520. DR. DESARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the performance of CISF personnel deployed at various airports of the country particularly their arrogance and misbehaviour with the air passengers including VIPs;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and